

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 DODE-00 AGRE-00 USIA-15
PER-05 FBOE-00 A-01 SY-05 OC-06 CCO-00 PM-05
NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 MED-03 EB-08 COME-00 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 STE-01 OPR-02 CU-06 /099 W
-----067969 281719Z /50

P R 281525Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2714
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 MOSCOW 14199

DEPT PLEASE PASS DOD, AGRICULTURE AND USIA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: APER, OGEN, UR, AFSP, ABLD, ASEC, ACOM, ALOW, AMED
SUBJECT: EMBASSY MOSCOW OPERATIONS LIMITATIONS

1. AS A RESULT OF THE RECENT EMBASSY FIRE, WE ARE FACED WITH EXTREMELY DIFFICULT HOUSING PROBLEMS DURING THE NEXT TWO TO THREE MONTHS. HOTEL SPACE IN ANY HOTEL IS EVEN NOW GETTING VERY HARD TO FIND AS WE APPROACH THE OCTOBER MEETING OF THE SUPREME SOVIET FOLLOWED BY THE NOVEMBER HOLIDAYS. FROM NOW UNTIL CHRISTMAS WE WILL HAVE APPROXIMATELY 50 TDY PERSONNEL HERE WORKING ON RECONSTRUCTION. THIS GROUP INCLUDES SEABEES, CONTRACTORS AND ASSORTED SHORTER-TERM EXPERTS. WITH PERHAPS A FEW EXCEPTIONS WE WILL HAVE TO HOUSE THEM IN EMBASSY APARTMENTS, AS HOTELS EVEN WHEN THEY ARE AVAILABLE ADD ENORMOUSLY TO COSTS IN TERMS OF MONEY, LOSS OF WORKING TIME AND EMBASSY TRANSPORTATION. COMPOUNDING THE HOUSING PROBLEM IS AN EXTREME SHORTAGE OF OFFICE SPACE IN THE CHANCERY. THE EIGHTH FLOOR IS USELESS UNTIL JANUARY; IT WILL BE CHRISTMAS AT THE EARLIEST BEFORE C&R CAN RETURN TO THE NINTH FLOOR; PARTS OF THE TENTH FLOOR ARE VIRTUALLY USELESS NOW BECAUSE OF THE COLD AND DAMPNES.

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IN SUM, THE EMBASSY MUST TAKE PAINFUL STEPS TO DEALWITH ITS SPACE PROBLEMS.

2. POSTPONEMENT OF INCOMING PERSONNEL: WITH GREAT REGRET THE AMBASSADOR HAS APPROVED CHANGES IN ARRIVAL DATES OF THE FOLLOWING EMPLOYEES:

NEW ARRIVALS	AGENCY/SECTION	NEW ETA
COL. B. LOEFFKE	DAO	1/78
JACK C. BRIGGS	ADMIN/MED	1/78
WALTER F. LOOMER	ADMIN/B&F	9/29/77
MRS. MARGUERITE LOOMER	ECON	11/1/77
CAPT. M. HRITSIK	DAO	1/78
CAPT. D. GIDDENS	DAO	1/78
SGT. LARRY	DAO	10/16/77
H. HUTSEN	ADMIN/C&R	10/7/77
S. YODER	AGR	1/78
F. FILE	ADMIN/C&R	10/7/77
J. FARRELL	ADMIN/C&R	11/15/77
CARTER/WEISZ (ONE OR THE OTHER, NOT BOTH)	CONS	10/15/77
CARTER/WEISZ (THE ONE WHO DOES NOT COME IN OCT.)	CONS	1/78
J. SONTAG	POL	1/78
D. HIRST	ADMIN/C#R	11/6/77
R. TAYLOR	ADMIN/C#R	11/20/77
J. CHARLTON	ADMIN/MED	1/78
L. HOPKINS	POL	1/78
C. GRAINGER	ADMIN/C#R	12/77

3. NO ACCOMPANIMENT BY INCOMING FAMILIES: NO FAMILY MAY PROCEED TO POST WITH INCOMING EMPLOYEES BEFORE THE MIDDLE OF NOV AND PERHAPS THIS DATE WILL HAVE TO BE PUSHED UNTIL UNCLASSIFIED

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DEC OR JAN. IN ANY EVENT, THE EMBASSY MUST SPECIFICALLY APPROVE THE ACCOMPANIMENT OF INCOMING FAMILIES TO MOSCOW ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS.

4. OTHER MEASURES: EVEN UNDER THE SCHEDULE ABOVE, INCOMING EMPLOYEES WILL HAVE TO SHARE AN APARTMENT AND POSSIBLY IN A FEW CASES A BEDROOM WITH ANOTHER EMPLOYEE FOR A FEW WEEKS. ADDITIONALLY, IT WILL PROBABLY BE NECESSARY TO USE THE BIG DACHA AS A BUNK HOUSE FOR EUROPEAN CONTRACT WORKERS. EMPLOYEES WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SHIP HH EFFECTS AND POV'S BEYOND EUROPE WITHOUT THE EMBASSY'S SPECIFIC APPROVAL ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS. FINALLY, WE PLAN TO CURTAIL THE TOUR OF AT LEAST ONE EMPLOYEE (THIS WILL BE SUBJECT OF PER CHANNEL CABLE.)

5. IN SUM, IT IS GOING TO BE A LONG, HARD WINTER IN MOSCOW. WE ALREADY HAVE A NUMBER OF FAMILIES SEPARATED, SEVERAL ARE SHARING THEIR HOUSING WITH OTHER FAMILIES OR INDIVIDUALS. THE DEMANDS ON THE GENERAL SERVICES UNIT ARE TREMENDOUS. A NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES MUST WORK AND/OR LIVE IN SPACE WITHOUT HEAT. THIS CONDITION PROBABLY CANNOT BE CORRECTED UNTIL MID-OCTOBER.

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NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 MED-03 EB-08 COME-00 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 STE-01 OPR-02 CU-06 /099 W
-----067810 281718Z /50

P R 281525Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2715
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 MOSCOW 14199

DEPT PLEASE PASS DOD, AGRICULTURE AND USIA

6. OFFICIAL VISITORS: BECAUSE OF THESE TRYING
CONDITIONS THE DEPARTMENT IS ASKED TO DISCOURAGE IN
THE STRONGEST TERMS ALL BUT THE MOST VITAL OFFICIAL
TRAVEL TO MOSCOW AND RESTRICTED INsofar AS POSSIBLE TO PERSONNEL
ESSENTIAL TO RECONSTRUCTION EFFORT. THE EMBASSY'S RESOURCES ARE
ALREADY SEVERELY STRAINED BY TDY PERSONNEL ESSENTIAL TO THE
RECONSTRUCTION. OFFICIAL VISITORS COMING TO MOSCOW
FOR OTHER PURPOSES WILL BE CONSIDERED BY THE EMBASSY
ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS, BUT SUCH VISITORS WILL HAVE
TO MAKE A COMPELLING CASE FOR THE NECESSITY OF TRAVEL
TO MOSCOW BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR.
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Sent Date: 28-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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